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REFERENCE: BOQ 511

ATTACHMENT TO M-6179
26 March 1969
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UNUSUAL SAM SITE CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE
HAIPHONG/CAT BI AIRFIELD, NORTH VIETNAM
204910N 1064415E

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1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS A SA-2 SAM SITE CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE UTILIZING AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS AS LAUNCH POSITIONS.

2. LOCATION:

HAIPHONG/CAT BI AIRFIELD, HAIPHONG, NORTH VIETNAM.

3. MISSION READOUT:

MISSION BO Q511 OF 14 MARCH 1969 REVEALS A SAM SITE CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE IN NORTH VIETNAM AT SITE A14-B (342). THE SITE CONSISTS OF FOUR UNOCCUPIED REVETTED LAUNCH POSITIONS AND AN UNOCCUPIED REVETTED CENTRAL GUIDANCE AREA. TWO OF THE LAUNCH POSITIONS ARE FORMER AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS. A FOURTH WALL HAS BEEN ADDED TO BOTH REVETMENTS. THE OTHER TWO REVETTED LAUNCH POSITIONS HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTED ON A DISPERSAL TAXIWAY.

4. REMARKS:

THE CONSTRUCTION AT THIS NEW SITE HIGHLIGHTS A DEVELOPMENT IN SAM SITE PREPARATION WHICH WAS FIRST OBSERVED AT SITE 311 (ALSO AT CAT BI AIRFIELD) IN

THIS TECHNIQUE GIVES THE SAM SITE A RATHER CRUDE APPEARANCE IN THAT PROBABLY ONLY VERY LIGHT EQUIPMENT WAS USED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SITE.

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BY NOT USING HEAVY EQUIPMENT SUCH AS BULLDOZERS AND EARTH MOVERS THE WALLS OF THE REVETMENT APPEAR MUCH THINNER AND NOT AS HIGH AS THOSE AT EARLIER SAM SITES. SITE 341, LOCATED SOUTH OF HAIPHONG, IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE USE OF THIS CRUDE CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE.

THE AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS AT SITE 342 HAVE BEEN SPECIALLY MODIFIED TO PROVIDE SIMILAR PROTECTION AND ACCESS AS THAT AFFORDED BY A NORMAL LAUNCH POSITION. SITE 311, A FOUR POSITION SITE, USED ONLY ONE MODIFIED AIRCRAFT REVETMENT, AND SITE 220 UTILIZED THE OPEN ENDED AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS WITH NO MODIFICATIONS.

THE RELATIVELY CRUDE CONSTRUCTION OF SITES 341 AND 342 COUPLED WITH THE RECENT OBSERVATION OF A DUMMY SITE AT HAIPHONG/CAT BI AIRFIELD AND ONE THREE NM SOUTH OF CAT BI, MAY BE AN ATTEMPT ON THE PART OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE TO PRESENT

THE TWO NEW SITES HAVE NOT BEEN

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OBSERVED OCCUPIED; HOWEVER, THEY COULD EASILY BE USED AS OPERATIONAL SITES.

ANOTHER CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE WAS RECENTLY OBSERVED AT SAM SITE NO. 15 IN THE HANOI AREA. THE SITE WAS BEING FURTHER HARDENED BY PLACING EMPTY SA-2 MISSILE CANNISTERS AROUND THE GUIDANCE AREA. (NPIC BRIEFING BOARD M-5807)

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MAP REF: SERIES L7014, SHEET 6350 IV, 1ST ED. (1:50,000) XJ808029

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